READ TO THE RHYTHM, Pasadena Public Library’s 2015 Summer Reading Challenge for children, teens and adults offers plenty of special events, programs and prizes. Now’s your chance to join in the fun! Call (626) 744-4066 for more details. To register, go to: http://pasadenasr.evanced.info/. Sponsored by The Friends of the Pasadena Public Library. Then stop by the library and pick up your “A Star Reader Lives Here” sign to display in your yard or window. Limit one per family.

Adults, sign up and track your reading activities online at http://pasadenasr.evanced.info/ (click Adult Summer Reading Challenge.) Log your completed activities weekly to be eligible for raffle prizes! Join us for discussions, programs and prize-winning opportunities.

Teens entering grades 7 – 12 can register online at http://pasadenasr.evanced.info/ (click Teen Summer Reading Challenge) to participate. Earn prizes, have fun, get involved and challenge yourself. One lucky teen will win an electric guitar kit, which includes an electric guitar donated by Capitol Guitars, a strap and an amplifier.

Children up to 12 years old can improve reading skills, earn fun prizes and enjoy great shows. Sign up at http://pasadenasr.evanced.info/ (click Children Summer Reading Challenge) then stop by any of the ten library sites to pick up a free game board/reading record. Track your summer reading, bring in your game board/reading record and collect your prizes.

Join us for a “Read to the Rhythm” Kick Off Party on Saturday, June 13 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Central Library’s Studio on 4th as we begin our 2015 Summer Reading Challenge! Drop in and create your own musical instruments – a box guitar, drums or a recorder – or challenge others to a dance off on the Wii Just Dance!

Help us Turn Jan’s Hair Blue!
Library Director Jan Sanders has challenged Pasadena Public Library staff. If we sign up 5,000 Summer Reading Challenge participants by Wednesday, August 5, she will dye her hair blue. Help us reach that goal – sign up for the 2015 Summer Reading Challenge today! Tell your friends about it too – we want to turn Jan’s hair blue!

Your Next Good Read
Looking for a great summer book? Try Pasadena Public Library’s new service, Your Next Good Read. Submit your request (adult, teen or children’s book titles) to http://cityofpasadena.net/Library/Your-Next-Good-Read/ and receive two to five suggestions.

Sign up for Off the Shelf online
Would you like to receive our monthly library newsletter by email? It’s easy! Just go to http://cityofpasadena.net/library/news_events/newsletter/. Enter your name and email address to subscribe, and then follow the instructions in the confirmation email. You may unsubscribe at any time.

All Pasadena Public Library programs and services listed in this newsletter are free and open to the public.

Adult Programs • Pages 3-5
Films & Special Events • Page 5
Teen Programs • Pages 6 & 7
 Tween Programs • Page 8
Children’s Programs • Pages 9 & 10
“Tell Your Story” Writing Contest

As part of the 2015 One City, One Story Contest, student contestants submitted an original short story of how they or a family member came to America. Stories depicted family tales (true or fictionalized) or explored the topic of what it means to be an American. Judges considered themes of family, being an American and immigration. The winning short stories from grades 3-5 were published in the May newsletter. Here are the winning entries for grades 6-8. To read their compete winning short stories visit http://pasadena-library.net/kids/2015/ocos. Look for the winning entries for grades 9-12 in the September issue of Off the Shelf.

1st Place Winner - Grades 6-8
Kaitlyn Chiu, 6th Grade

The Cost of Freedom

He sat on the neatly tiled roof, his long hair blowing in the crisp, cold wind. Hao watched in horror as his older sister was questioned rudely by one of the Communist soldiers. His sister had taken her time, leaving the men pounding on the elegant door while Hao was sent up to the roof, his mother sobbing. She frantically packed him a sack of rice, a jug of water and twelve gold coins. She stuffed a warm silk coat in his sack and a jade band with the family name engraved. “Be safe my son,” she repeated over and over. She looked into her only son’s eyes with longing. Having four older sisters before him, Hao had been the family jewel, their pride. From when he was born, Hao had been pampered and valued above all his older sisters.

Hao’s mother climbed up and poked her head through the trapdoor in the roof. “He is here, Hao,” she whispered, her eyes glistening with tears. “Be safe my son,” Hao’s mother repeated for the last time. “Bye mama,” Hao quietly replied, giving his mother a hug. When his mother climbed back down, a strange man climbed up. He was a skinny and short man who had tousled hair. Unlike Hao’s long hair, this man had a short crew cut, which exposed his ears and forehead. He nodded at Hao and gestured to the sunset. “My name is Sang. We leave when the sun sets,” the man said in a low voice. Hao jerked his head when he heard shouts from below. “ALL OF YOU! OUT!!!”

Hao heard the door slam and footsteps trample up the stairs. Sang walked to the trapdoor and gently lowered the door, locking it shut. “Time to go son.” Hao and Sang walked along the neatly tiled roof, and Hao glanced back one last time to the home he loved and had known all his life. From the roof, Hao could see soldiers marching down the streets, chanting insults to the onlookers. Hao watched as his parents and sisters, along with the servants, marched out the door in handcuffs. Filthy rags that provided little protection against the harsh wind replaced the precious silk that his mother and sisters wore. His father was stripped of his jade and linen robe, and whipped ‘til his back shone with shining blood. Hao cried with rage, but Sang covered his mouth, stopping Hao from shouting. Forcing himself to forget his family and his home, Hao reminded himself that his parents wanted him to carry on the family name. Continue the pride of his family. With a swift motion, Hao watched Sang leap from his home to their neighbor’s roof. Hao copied Sang’s motion, and he too easily glided over the street.

Roof to roof, Sang and Hao leaped over the prosperous community. For what seemed like days, Hao and Sang jumped from each roof, hiding from the troops that surrounded the houses like weeds taking over a beautifully kept garden.

“Hao, one more, I promise,” Sang whispered. Hao sat leaning on a chimney. He was tired, sweating and afraid. “Tomorrow will be my fourteenth birthday,” Hao responded. “You will have a new life to get used to,” Sang replied. Hao thought of the day he left his home with a strange man he had never known. “Take me home. Please.” Sang looked at Hao and said, “Your parents paid me to take you out of Vietnam. I will not fail, and I will make sure you are safe.” “Fine. One more,” Hao answered. Together they leaped off the roof and, when they landed, Hao felt all his problems lift off his shoulders. Hao watched birds fly over the crushing waves. His heart broke to see sailors escorted off their boats, Communist soldiers by their sides.

Sang lowered himself down to the shore. He spoke quickly to one of the sailors and hurried back to Hao. “There is your boat. You will leave with them. Careful not to be seen, they are looking for you.”

Hao carefully observed the boat. He glanced at the captain suspiciously and boarded the ship. Hao went below deck and unpacked his sack. He sipped his water jug sparingly, and he watched other passengers eye him enviously.

The captain announced that they would be leaving the dock, and Hao took out his coat and made himself comfortable. He didn’t realize how tired he was until he set his head on the table and closed his eyes.

BAM! BANG! BOOM!! Hao jerked his head up. His head spun and his eyes blurred. “Son, son, get up,” a middle-aged woman said, nudging Hao. Hao opened his eyes, and Hao felt hot tears roll down his face. The woman had the same caring face that his mother had. The warm eyes, and tender smile. He cried for his mother, his sisters, and for his father. He cried for home. He wanted to forget everything, for it to all go away. For it to be a dream. “Where are we?” Hao asked, his eyes focusing. “Pirates, pirates attacking,” she answered faintly.

To read more visit http://pasadena-library.net/kids/2015/ocos

“Tell Your Story” Writing Contest Winners Continued on Page 11
Of Thee I Sing: The Magna Carta @ 800
On June 15, 1215, England’s King John’s Barons forced him to sign the Magna Carta, or “The Great Charter,” outlining basic human rights. This document inspired the Habeas Corpus Act, the Declaration of Independence, the American Revolution, the Bill of Rights and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Folksinger Ross Altman presents songs and stories celebrating these milestones in liberty and justice for all.
Saturday, June 13 • 2 p.m. • Allendale

Mozart Quartet
Spend the afternoon with the Andante Quartet as they play a selection of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s quartets.
Saturday, July 18 • 3 p.m. • Linda Vista

Jazz on a Summer’s Day
Cool off with some classy, cool (and hot) jazz on a summer’s day featuring the music of EPC Jazz.
Thursday, July 23 • 2 p.m. • La Pintoresca

Bubble Gum Music is the Naked Truth
Do you remember the daffy sing-along sounds of Bubblegum Music – “Yummy Yummy Yummy” “Green Tambourine” and “Sugar Sugar”? Celebrate the history and mythology of this under-appreciated genre and the Saturday morning cartoons where many of these most memorable songs debuted. Presented by Kim Cooper.
Thursday, July 23 • 7 p.m. • Central Library/Donald Wright Auditorium

Brother Yusef Sings the Blues
It’s summer and time to sing the blues with Pasadena’s own premier blues guitarist.
Thursday, July 30 • 3 p.m. • La Pintoresca

A Tribute to Mildred Bailey: The Greatest Songbird
Jazz singer Julia Keefe pays tribute to the first female singer to perform with a Big Band orchestra in the 1920s, Mildred Bailey. Named “just about the greatest songbird in the U.S.” by Time magazine, Bailey paved the way for Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald and other singing greats, and helped launch Bing Crosby’s career.
Saturday, August 22 • 2 p.m. • Allendale

Rave Reviews
For book selections, contact the branch libraries listed below.
Great Literature and Discussion Group
Mondays • 11 a.m. • Lamanda Park
Book Chit Chat
Tuesdays, June 2, July 7, & August 4 • 6:30 p.m. • Hastings

Allendale Book Discussion
Saturdays, June 6, July 18, & August 15 • 10:30 a.m.

Hill Avenue Book Discussion
Saturdays, June 20, July 18 & August 29 • 10:30 a.m. • Hill Avenue

Rave Reviews
Mondays, June 22, July 27, August 24 • 2 p.m. • Lamanda Park

West Pasadena Book Discussion
Thursdays, June 25 & August 27 • 4 p.m. • San Rafael
Saturday, July 18 • 11 a.m. • Hastings

Pasadena Readers
Mondays, June 29, July 20 & August 17 • 3 p.m. • Central Library/4th Floor Meeting Room

Pasadena Readers - NEW Central Library Book Club Forming
Love to read? Join the new book group led by Merry Pawlowski from California State University, Bakersfield. The summer theme features “California Callin’” Stories, featuring Ramone by Helen Hunt Jackson in June, Sea Wolf by Jack London in July and The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck in August. To sign up, email creeder@cityofpasadena.net, then pick up a copy of Ramone to read from Central Library’s Circulation Desk’s Will Call Shelf. Future selections will be distributed at upcoming meetings.
Mondays, June 22, July 20 & August 17 • 3 p.m. • Central Library/4th Floor Meeting Room

Calling All Authors!
 Pasadena Public Library is looking for local authors to participate in our 3rd Annual Author Fair on Friday, October 9 from 6 – 10 p.m. at Central Library as a part of Pasadena’s biannual ArtNight celebration.

All authors are invited to participate, including those who specialize in art, photography, woodworking, crafts, knitting, sewing decorating, baking, cooking, home improvement, self-help, biography, history, fiction and non-fiction, children’s literature and other subjects. Display and sell your book/s, keep all sale proceeds and greet guests one-on-one!

Participation is Free. Sign up at www.pasadenapubliclibrary.net beginning Monday, June 15. Registration and exhibit location is based on a first-come, first-served basis. Participants will receive a confirmation email following registration.
**DISCOVERY CLASSES**

**CREATIVE ARTS**

*Art a la Carte*
Artist Lorrie Shriners teaches drawing, watercolor and collage techniques. Beginners welcome.

**Wednesdays** • 2 p.m. • San Rafael

*San Rafael Knitting Group*
Bring your needles and yarn to share ideas and conversation with fellow crafters.

**Thursdays**, June 4 & 18, July 2 & 16, August 6 & 20 • 2 p.m. • San Rafael

*The Courage to Write Writing Workshop*
Join author Esther Bradley-DeTalley in finding your own voice as she walks you through the process of writing. No experience necessary. Call (626) 744-7262 to sign up.

**Fridays**, June 5, 12, 19, 26 & July 10 & 17 • 1–3 p.m. • La Pintoresca

*Perkins Alley Poets*
A poetry writing and critique workshop with facilitator Carl Stilwell.

**Saturdays**, June 6 & 20, July 18, August 1, 15 & 29 • 3 p.m. • Santa Catalina

*DIY Medieval Catapult*
If you like building things and shooting things across the room, join us and build your own Medieval catapult! Kids and grandkids (ages 8 & up) are welcome to come and help! Registration is required. Supplies are limited. To sign up, call (626) 744-7278 (Linda Vista program) or (626) 744-7272 (Santa Catalina program).

**Saturdays**, June 20 & July 18, August 5 & 22 • 3 p.m. • Santa Catalina

*Cooking with Isaac*
Enjoy a culinary demonstration and tasting with Chef Isaac Greenhouse, featuring homemade pasta with a seasonal sauce.

**Saturday**, June 27 • 2 p.m. • Allendale

*Red, White & Blue*
Celebrate Independence Day with a red, white & blue art project, led by artist Margot Dyches. To sign up, call (626) 744-7264.

**Saturday**, June 27 • 2 p.m. • Hill Avenue

*Experience Pastels*
Channel your creative spirit as you explore working with pastels, led by artist Ed Faubert. All supplies provided. To sign up, email creeder@cityofpasadena.net.

**Tuesday** - Thursday, July 14, 15, 16 • 3 – 4:30 p.m. • Central Library/West Patio

*Cake and Cupcake Decorating*
Get creative and learn to decorate cakes and cupcakes from pastry chef Regina Ayala. Enjoy a tasting afterwards!

**Saturday**, July 25 • 2 p.m. • Allendale

*Decoupage Keepsake Boxes*
Decorate a keepsake box for your treasures - Grandmother’s glasses, a child’s artwork, something that is special to you – and have fun in the process, led by artist Margot Dyches. To sign up, call (626) 744-7264.

**Saturday**, July 25 • 2 p.m. • Hill Avenue

*Card Making Workshop*
Enjoy making your very own greeting cards. All supplies provided. To sign up, call (626) 744-7278.

**Wednesday**, August 5 • 3 p.m. • Linda Vista

*Geometric Designs*
Create interesting artwork using geometric designs, led by artist Margot Dyches. To sign up, call (626) 744-7264.

**Saturday**, August 22 • 2 p.m. • Hill Avenue

**GARDENING**

**GARDEN CLUB MEETINGS @ HILL AVENUE**

*To Water Or Not To Water?*
Pick up tips on watering your landscape to keep it healthy during the drought. Presented by David Lannon, Pasadena Water & Power Department.

**Saturday**, June 6 • 10:30 a.m.

*Pushing the Limits of Urban Gardening*
José Ramirez presents a slide show of his high density fruit and vegetable garden in East Los Angeles which reflects a fusion of his family heritage and contemporary ideas about high density urban backyard orchards.

**Saturday**, August 1 • 10:30 a.m.

**HEALTH & FITNESS**

*Lip Reading and Memory Enhancement*

**Wednesdays** • 1 p.m. • Lamanda Park

*Free Health Screenings*
Registered nurses from Huntington Hospital provide free blood pressure and blood sugar screenings, referrals and health education.

**Wednesdays**, June 3, July 1 & August 5 • 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. • Central Library

**Tuesday**, June 16, July 21 & August 18 • 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. • Hastings

*Chair Aerobics*
Learn new non-impact exercise routines performed while seated or standing next to or behind a chair. For ages 55+.

**Saturdays**, June 6, July 11 & August 1 • 11 a.m. • San Rafael

**Tuesdays**, June 16, July 21 & August 18 • 12:30 p.m. • San Rafael

*Zumba Class*
Zumba is a great way to lose weight, tone up, increase cardio strength, improve coordination, gain self-esteem and feel happy! Beginners are welcome.

**Saturdays**, June 13 & 27, July 11 & 25, August 8 & 22 • 11 a.m. • Lamanda Park

*Three Secrets to a Healthy Life*
Learn how to keep yourself and your loved ones healthy through proper nutrition, exercise and stress reduction. Presented by Dr. Bernardo Perez.

**Saturday**, August 15 • 4 p.m. • Hill Avenue

**HISTORY & CULTURE**

*Pasadena African-American Genealogy Group*
Saturday, June 6 • 2:30 p.m. • Lamanda Park

*Introduction to Traditional Chinese Culture*
Join us as we learn about Chinese history and explore Chinese culture.

**Saturday**, June 27 • 10:30 a.m. • noon • Hastings

**LANGUAGE**

*Spanish Conversation Group*
Thursdays • 12:45 p.m. • San Rafael

**LAW**

*LA Law Librarian in Law Room*
Free weekly service with legal research specialists (not attorneys) to help you answer legal questions. Provided by LA Law Library.

**Thursdays** • 1 – 5 p.m. • Central Library/Law Room

*Facing Eviction*
One-on-one eviction defense consultation by an attorney. Learn what to expect the day of the trial. Assistance limited to eviction cases filed in the Pasadena Courthouse. To sign up, call (213) 385-2977 x 402.

**Thursdays** • 3 – 7 p.m. • Central Library/4th Floor Meeting Room

*QuickLook: Introduction to Lexis*
Presented by the LA Law Library.

**Thursday**, June 18 • 1 – 1:45 p.m. • Central Library/Law Room

*Quicklook: Introduction to WestlawNext*
Presented by the LA Law Library.

**Thursday**, July 16 • 1 – 1:45 p.m. • Central Library/Law Room

*Quicklook: Intro to Electronic Resources*
Presented by the LA Law Library.

**Thursday**, August 20 • 1 – 1:45 p.m. • Central Library/Law Room

**DISCOVER THE FAVORITES OF gehören**

*The Friends of the Pasadena Public Library Bookstore*
Open Monday – Friday
11 a.m. – 4 p.m. • Central Library

*The Friends of the Pasadena Public Library Book Sale*
Second Saturday of each month
9 a.m. – noon • Central Library East Patio
DIGITAL LITERACY
Free Computer/Technology Classes
Pasadenapubliclibrary.net/training

Central Library
Learn to Code with US
Never written a software program before? Learning your 5th programming language? Get support at our bring-your-own-laptop event.
Wednesdays • 7 – 8:30 p.m. • Central Library/Sunroom

BUSINESS SERVICES
SCORE Small Business Counseling
Free one-on-one counseling provided by business professionals to anyone operating a small business or thinking of starting one. To sign up, call (626) 744-7351.
Tuesdays • Central Library/4th Floor Meeting Room

Pasadena Small Business Owners Networking Group
Increase your business knowledge, meet other local business people and practice your 30-second “elevator introduction.” Sign up at www.meetup.com/Pasadena-Small-Biz-Network.
Thursdays, June 4 & 18, July 2 & 23, August 6 & 20 • noon – 2 p.m. • La Pintoresca

SPECIAL EVENTS
Celebrate Music: Make Music Pasadena
Clap to the rhythm as the library joins in the annual citywide Make Music Pasadena Festival. Enjoy a day of outstanding songwriters and musicians. For teens and adults.
Saturday, June 6 • 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. • Central Library/Donald Wright Auditorium

Creating Independence for Your Adult “Kid” with Autism & Special Needs
Are you concerned about your child’s future? Amalia Starr, author and mother of a 40-year-old autistic son, shares the importance of “letting go” as you encourage your child.
Saturday, June 6 • 1 – 3 p.m. • Central Library/Donald Wright Auditorium

Baseball Reliquary: Shrine of the Eternals 2015 Induction Day
Join us for the 17th Annual Shrine of the Eternals Induction Day ceremony. This year’s inductees are Steve Bilko, slugging star of the Pacific Coast League’s Los Angeles Angels in the 1950s; Sy Berger, who reinvested the baseball card for the baby boom generation as a Topp’s Chewing Gum Company executive in the 1950s; and Glenn Burke, former Los Angeles Dodgers and Oakland Athletics outfielder and the first major league ballplayer to publicly acknowledge that he was gay.
Sunday, July 19 • 2 p.m. • Central Library/Donald Wright Auditorium

Music Mobile
Join us for a musical introduction to all the voices of the orchestra: the strings, brass, woodwind and percussion instruments. Learn how to play various instruments.
Tuesday, July 21 • 3:30 p.m. • Central Library/Donald Wright Auditorium

Family Sing-a-long
Enjoy an old fashion sing-a-long with Theatre Americana. We’ll sing Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious, A Pirates Life For Me, High Hopes, Swinging on a Star and Happy along with some old favorites. Song sheets and kazoo’s provided.
Saturday, July 25 • 7 p.m. • Central Library/Donald Wright Auditorium

Bungalow Heaven: Preserving a Neighborhood, a Documentary
Pasadena’s Bungalow Heaven was the first historic landmark district in Pasadena, and the United States. Joaquin Montalvan’s documentary reveals the hard-fought struggle that took place to preserve this unique and highly coveted neighborhood. Following the screening, Tina Miller, President of Bungalow Heaven Neighborhood Association, will talk about the organization’s efforts.
Saturday, July 18 • 11 a.m. • Santa Catalina

Tech M@de Easy
You’ve got tech questions … we’ve got tech answers! Whether it’s your computer, laptop, Microsoft Office, smartphone, or tablet we can help you. Drop in and learn how to download eBooks and audiobooks, or test drive our new online catalog and learn to manage your own personal library account.
Tuesdays, June 9, July 14 & August 11 • 10 – 11:30 a.m. • Central Library/StUDIO on 4th

Wednesdays, June 24 • 2 – 3:30 p.m. • Central Library/StUDIO on 4th

Wednesdays, July 22 & August 26
2:30 – 4 p.m. • Central Library/StUDIO on 4th

FILMS FOR ALL AGES
MONDAYS
LA PINTORESQA
Kids’ Summer Cinema
Enjoy movies all summer long! For film titles, call (626) 744-7268.
June 15, 22 & 29, July 6, 13, 20, 27 & August 3 • 1 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS CENTRAL LIBRARY
Donald R. Wright Auditorium
Wednesdays • 1 p.m.

JUNE IS HEALTH MONTH
Sponsored by the Huntington Hospital Outreach Nurses
June 3 • Nicholas’ Gift (1994) NR
The story of 7-year-old Nicholas Green, who was shot and killed in an attempted car robbery while vacationing in Italy with his family. When Nicholas died, his parents chose to donate his organs. The incident generated a significant increase in the rate of organ donation in Italy.

June 10 • Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story (2009) NR
The story of pediatric neurosurgeon Ben Carson, who overcame obstacles to study medicine and save lives.

July 17 • Temple Grandin (2010) NR
The story of famed animal behaviorist, Temple Grandin, who coped with the stigma of Autism at a time when it was misunderstood.

August 21 • Something the Lord Made (1994) NR
The story of famed animal behaviorist, Temple Grandin, who coped with the stigma of Autism at a time when it was misunderstood.

La Pintoresca Branch Library
Open Computer Lab Time
Teach yourself Mango Languages, FC Search Online and the 2010 Microsoft Office Suite. Research the Foundation Directory Online and apply for jobs and government programs. Computer time may be limited based on demand.
Monday - Friday • 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. (except July 3)

Volunteer Opportunity
Find out how to make a difference in the life of an abused or neglected child by becoming a Los Angeles Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA).
Saturday, June 20 • 1 p.m. • Hastings

Book Us! For Help with your NEW eReader Device
Would you like to learn how to check out eBooks for your new eReader? Make a BOOK US! appointment, skip the line and meet with reference staff when it is most convenient for you. The service is available to Pasadena Public Library card holders who live or work in Pasadena.

Summer Films for All Ages
Presented by the Friends of the Pasadena Public Library
The film will be cancelled if The Friends of the Library volunteers are unable to show the movie.

Central Library/Donald Wright Auditorium
Wednesdays • 1 p.m.

JULY & AUGUST FILMS
Featuring Classic Children’s Books

July 1 • Johnny Tremain (1957) NR
July 8 • The Secret Garden (1993) G
July 15 • The Little Mermaid (1989) G
July 22 • The Rescuers (1977) G
July 28 • Captains Courageous (1937) NR
August 5 • Fantasia 2000 (2000) G
August 12 • Pete’s Dragon (1977) G
August 19 • Treasure Island (1950) PG
August 26 • Black Beauty (1941) G

THURSDAYS
VILLA PARKE
Family Film Flicks
Moving the whole family can enjoy! For film titles, call (626) 744-6510.
3 p.m.

FRIDAYS
SANTA CATALINA
Family Movie Day
For film titles, call (626) 744-7262.
June 26, July 24 & August 7 • 4 p.m.
Teen Summer Reading Challenge

JUNE 13 – AUGUST 8

Teens entering grades 7-12 (roughly ages 12–18), join the Teen Summer Reading Challenge! Earn prizes, have fun, get involved and challenge yourself.

HOW TO PLAY:
• Register online at http://pasadenasr.evanced.info. Click Teen Summer Reading Challenge 2015
• Log your activities in your online account to qualify for weekly raffle drawings. (You don't need to go in the game board order.)
• Earn raffle tickets for each activity you complete.
• Log your activities in your online account to qualify for weekly raffle drawings.
• For every five activities you complete this summer you’ll receive a book to take home (maximum of five books per participant).
• For every five activities you complete you will also be entered into the grand prize drawing (maximum of five entries per participant). One lucky winner will win an electric guitar kit, which includes an electric guitar donated by Capitol Guitars, a strap, and an amplifier.

RULES:
1. No double counting!
2. Must read the whole book in order for it to count!
3. You may log your activities to claim your raffle entries at any time from June 13 – August 8. Remember that we hold drawings weekly.
4. Only activities completed between June 13 – August 8 count.

SONG PARODY CONTEST
Open to teens entering grades 7-12 in fall 2015. Contest deadline: August 8

Create a parody of an existing song. Extra points if it's about a book!

Here’s how:
• Title of original song
• Type out your new lyrics and new title
• Your song must be at least one stanza and one chorus
• Send your entry to Jane Gov jgov@cityofpasadena.net with “Song Parody Contest” in the subject line. Include your name, phone number, and grade you’ll be entering this fall.

Create Your Own Book Soundtrack with Instagram
Now that you’ve read a great book, make it come alive with its own soundtrack on Instagram! This weekly contest is open to teens entering grades 7-12.

Here’s how:
• Post a pic of your book and list at least five songs in the comments section that reflect what you read. There are $10 iTunes or Starbucks gift cards up for grabs, so be as creative, eclectic and original.
• Post your soundtrack to Instagram with these tags: #artimitateslife #pasadenalibrary. Be sure to tag the name of your book and the author, since they will love hearing your feedback!
• If you don’t have Instagram, it’s easy to download through Google Play or the App Store. If you are not yet 13 years old, please ask a parent or guardian to make an Instagram account and post your soundtrack with their permission and profile.
• If your Instagram profile is set to private, please message us using the “Direct” function so we can take a look at what you created.
• Winners will be selected weekly, June 13-August 8.

First prize $100 gift card
Second prize $50 gift card
Third prize $25 gift card

Here is a sample of what you can do to make your playlist standout:
TEEN SCENE

Our programs and events are extremely popular. Space is limited, registration may be required. Check listings for details.

Game Night
Join us for snacks and board games, including Castle Panic, Forbidden Island, Pandemic, Risk, Ticket to Ride, Apples to Apples, Yahtzee, Taboo and more. Must play well with others. For teens and adults.

Monday, June 15 • 6 p.m. • Central Library/Studio on 4th
Monday, July 13 • 6 p.m. • Central Library/Studio on 4th
Monday, August 10 • 6 p.m. • Central Library/Studio on 4th

Just Dance Party
Kick off the Read to the Rhythm Teen Summer Reading Club with an epic Just Dance 2015 Party for the Wii U. Get down with your bad self with popular hits like “Diamonds” by Rihanna, “Maps” by Maroon 5, and “Bailando” with Enrique Iglesias. Comfortable clothing and water bottles are highly recommended.
Tuesday, June 16 • 3:30 p.m. • Santa Catalina

No-Sew Blankets
Make your own no-sew blanket to keep you or a loved one warm and cozy, or donate it to a charity. No sewing skills required.
Wednesday, June 17 • 5 p.m. • Central Library/Studio on 4th
Tuesday, July 7 • 2 p.m. • Allendale
Tuesday, August 4 • 3:30 p.m. • Santa Catalina

Sword Fighting
Learn German and Italian long sword styles, sword and shield, polearms, daggers and medieval grappling. Swordscholar works with researchers and martial artists throughout the world to recreate medieval combat as a serious martial art.
Thursday, June 18 • 3:30 p.m. • La Pintoresca
Saturday, July 25 • 3 p.m. • Central Library/Studio on 4th
To sign up, call (626) 744-4246.

Anime Afternoons
Join us for some great teen-rated anime!
Saturday, June 20 • 2 p.m. • Central Library/Children’s Story Room
Saturday, July 18 • 2 p.m. • Central Library/Children’s Story Room • stick around for a craft afterwards!
Saturday, August 15 • 2 p.m. • Central Library/Children’s Story Room

KPop Dance
Experience the fun and excitement of Korean pop music videos in this one-of-a-kind KPop MV dance class. Learn dance routines taught by an instructor from PopHock Academy for students of all levels. To sign up, call (626) 744-4246.
Monday, June 22 • 3 – 5 p.m. • Central Library/Studio on 4th

American Idol Songwriting Workshop
Kelly Corsino, American Idol songwriting finalist, will show you practical, easy-to-master techniques that will have you writing lyrics on the spot!
Tuesday, June 23 • 4 p.m. • Hastings

YA Author Visit and Writing Workshop
Writing a novel or just experimenting? Get some practice and expert advice from YA authors: We’ll start with writing exercises and then spend a little time one-on-one. Bring your work (10 page double-spaced maximum), ask your questions, and stay for a short panel discussion and a book signing. To sign up, call (626) 744-4246.
Wednesday, June 24 • 6 p.m. • Central Library/Studio on 4th
(Workshop leaders: Nicole Maggi, author of The Forgetting and Winter Falls; and Michelle Levy, author of Not After Everything)
Saturday, July 11 • 3 p.m. • Central Library/Studio on 4th
(Workshop leaders: Virginia Boecker, author of The Witch Hunter and Charlotte Huang, author of For the Record)

YA Book Club
Join us for a book discussion for teens and adults. Need a book? Call (626) 744-4246 or email Jane Gov at jgov@cityofpasadena to request a copy.
Wednesday, July 1 • 7 p.m. • Central Library/4th Floor Meeting Room
(Bruise by Neal Shusterman)
Wednesday, July 29 • 7 p.m. • Central Library/4th Floor Meeting Room

Film Screening of Pitch Perfect
Escape the summer heat with Pitch Perfect (2012; rated PG-13)! Join Beca, a freshman at Barden University, who is persuaded to join the singing group The Bellas as they take on their male rivals in a campus competition. There will be lots of laughs, singing and refreshments!
Tuesday, July 7 • 3:30 p.m. • Santa Catalina

Doctor Who Night
Join us for a night of Doctor Who-inspired crafts, snacks and videos.
Wednesday, July 8 • 6 p.m. • Central Library/Studio on 4th

Digital Photography
Learn what makes a great captured moment. Bring your own device (iPad, iPhone, Touch, Samsung S4, etc.) or use one of ours to create some awesome digital photography. Led by photographer Katie Ferguson. To sign up, call (626) 744-7264.
Thursday, July 9 • 3 p.m. • Hill Avenue

The Art of the Zine
Zines are small independent publications, and the world of Zinesters is largely underground. Learn about this wonderful art, then make your own! Presented by comic book artist and illustrator Yumi Sakugawa, who has also taught at Art Center College of Design. To sign up, call (626) 744-4246.
Sunday, July 12 • 2 p.m. • Central Library/Studio on 4th

Robotics
Learn how to program robots’ movements for an end-of-the-session obstacle course, where you and your robot will showcase what you’ve learned. To sign up, call (626) 744-7262.
Monday, July 13 • 12 p.m. • Hastings

Found Object Juggle Show
Tuesday, July 14 • 3:30 p.m. • La Pintoresca

Anime Your Way
Using basic shapes and simple concepts, former The Simpsons artist Carlos Nieto III will show you how to create and modify your very own anime character. Materials provided.
To sign up, call (626) 744-7262.
Tuesday, July 14 • 4 p.m. • Hastings

Steampunk Jewelry
Create fun steampunk-style jewelry using watch parts, gears, brass and copper charms, led by Katie Ferguson. To sign up, call (626) 744-7266.
Wednesday, July 15 • 3 – 5 p.m. • Lamanda Park

Beginning Knitting
Whether you are a beginner or a pro you’ll enjoy knitting with us and learning new patterns. Led by Alethea Allarey. Supplies provided. To sign up, call (626) 744-6510.
Thursday, July 16 • 3 – 5 p.m. • Villa Parke

Kawaii Doll Making
Spend the afternoon making a super cute Kawaii doll while listening to music and having fun. Led by artist Liane Shih.
Sunday, July 26 • 1 p.m. • Central Library/4th Floor Meeting Room

T-shirt Painting
Paint a T-shirt by making your own stencil. Guides, supplies and some designs provided, but you can bring in your own ideas, too. To sign up, call (626) 744-4246.
Wednesday, July 29 • 6 p.m. • Hastings

Acrylic Painting
Learn how to paint with acrylics. Materials provided. Led by Alethea Allarey. To sign up, call (626) 744-7260.
Thursday, July 23 • 3 p.m. • Allendale

Character Design Workshop
Join us for a five-day adventure as you learn how to create and develop characters, perfect for video grams, animation and film. Must be able to attend all five days.
To sign up, call (626) 744-7262.
Monday, August 10 — Friday, August 14 • 2 – 4 p.m. • Hastings

Boardwalk and Park Place await! Stay out of jail and test your skills at the annual Teen Monopoly Tournament. Two 90-minute rounds will be played, with first, second and third-place prizes awarded. Lunch and refreshments provided. Official Monopoly rules will be followed.
Wednesday, July 22 • 10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. • Central Library/Studio on 4th

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To sign up, call (626) 744-7262.
Monday, August 10 — Friday, August 14 • 2 – 4 p.m. • Hastings
TWEENS
Our programs and events are extremely popular. Space is limited; registration may be required. Check listings for details.

BOOKS AND MORE

Kids’ Writing Workshop
Are you a dreamer? Do you love to write? It’s never too early to start writing your own stories. You don’t have to be an expert – you just have to love stories and have a great imagination. For grades 3 - 5. To sign up, call (626) 744-4066 option 4.

Fridays, June 19, July 31 & August 28 • 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.
Central Library/Children’s Story Room

Mother/Daughter Book Club
Join us as we discuss books that inspire compassion, self-esteem and courage in the face of social pressure and explore what it means to be a strong, confident young woman! For girls 11+, their mothers or an adult guest of their choice. July’s selection is A Snicker of Magic by Natalie Lloyd and August’s selection is The Great Gilly Hopkins by Katherine Paterson. To sign up, call (626) 744-4066, option 3.

Wednesday, July 15 • 7 p.m.
Central Library/Children’s Story Room
Wednesday, August 19 • 7 p.m.
Central Library/Children’s Story Room

Kids’ Book Club
Join us as we discuss Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key by Jack Gantos. For grades 3 – 5. To sign up, call (626) 744-4066 option 3. Then stop in at the Central Library Children’s Desk to pick up your book.

Wednesday, July 29 • 4:30 p.m.
Central Library/Children’s Story Room

Graphic Novel Book Club
Join us as we read and discuss some great graphic novels that are NOT about superheroes. A list of suggestions will be available beginning June 13. Pick up your book at the Central Library Children’s Desk. For grades 3 – 5. To sign up, call (626) 744-4066 option 3.

Thursday, August 6 • 3 p.m.
Central Library/Children’s Story Room

CREATIVE ARTS

Beginning African Drumming
Join educator, musician, storyteller and artist Onochie Chukwurah for a three-week class in beginning drumming for all ages. Drums are provided. To sign up, call (626) 744-7268.

Mondays, July 6, 13 & 20 • 3 p.m.
La Pintoresca

Just Dance Competition
Enjoy dancing? Join us and compete for points until we have a head to head competition with the top 1st – 4th place dancers. Song selections will be drawn randomly.

Tuesday, July 7 • 4 p.m.
Hastings

Musical Bingo
Join us for a fun-filled afternoon of Bingo, with prizes and treats for all. For ages 10+.

Thursday, July 16 • 4 p.m.
La Pintoresca

Joseph Peck and his Steel Drums
Do you like to drum? Learn how the steel drum was developed then enjoy some hands-on drumming lessons from professional drummer Joseph Peck.

Tuesday, July 21 • 3 p.m.
Allendale

Garage Band
Use your iPad and GarageBand to create and edit your own music. Limited number of iPads available; if you have an iPad, please bring it. To sign up, call (626) 744-7262.

Tuesday, July 28 • 4 p.m.
Hastings

Lip Sync Battle
Do you have what it takes to “sync” the competition? Just mouth the words and perform with all you’ve got at our Lip Sync Battle.

Tuesday, August 4 • 4 p.m.
Hastings

Computer Pals
Learn how to use Word and the Internet for homework and other projects this summer.

Saturdays, June 6 & 20, July 18, August 1, 15 & 29 • 10 – 11:30 a.m.
La Pintoresca

The Science Behind Making Music
Learn about the science and math behind musical instruments – then, make some! To sign up, call (626) 744-4066 option 4. For ages 8+.

Monday, June 8 • 2 p.m.
Central Library/Children’s Story Room

STEAM Team Club
Explore the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) concepts through creative, innovative projects based on fun STEAM-related challenges. For grades 3 – 6. To sign up, call (626) 744-7262.

Wednesdays, June 10 & July 8 • 4 p.m.
Hastings

Game Maker
Does your teen or tween spend too much time playing computer games? Then sign them up for our workshop where they will learn to create and design simple computer and videogame programs. Presented by digital artist Ean Moore. For ages 11+.

To sign up, call (626) 744-7268.

Saturday, June 20 • 10 a.m.
La Pintoresca

Fun Games with Computer Code
Learn computer code while enjoying video games. Explore the unique and innovative technology known as “Code Combat,” as we learn the Python language together. Presented by Ean Moore. For ages 10+.

Tuesday, June 23 • 3:30 p.m.
La Pintoresca

Programming and Computer Logic for Kids
Board games serve as a method of teaching kids how to program computers. Ean Moore will teach kids how to play “Robot Turtles” and help them gain a stronger foundation in computer logic and programming. For ages 8+.

Thursday, June 25 • 3:30 p.m.
La Pintoresca

The Science Behind Recording Music
Learn about the science behind inventions that let us record and replay great music. Then make your own phonograph and use it to play records. To sign up, call (626) 744-4066 option 4. For ages 8+.

Monday, August 10 • 2 p.m.
Central Library/Children’s Story Room

Scratch for Experienced Users

To sign up, call (626) 744-4066 option 4.

Friday, August 14 • 2 p.m.
Central Library/Technology Learning Center
**LIBRARY KIDS**

Our programs and events are extremely popular. Space is limited; registration may be required. Check listings for details.

**Making Music with One World Rhythm**
Explore your musical side as you experience the magic of drumming and making music. For all ages!
- **Saturday, June 13** • 3 p.m. • Linda Vista
- **Thursday, June 18** • 3 p.m. • Hastings
- **Thursday, June 18** • 3:30 p.m. • Santa Catalina
- **Tuesday, July 7** • 10:30 a.m. • Villa Parke

**Illusions by Allen**
You’ll be astounded and amazed by the incredible magical feats of Allen the Magician.
- **Tuesday, June 16** • 4 p.m. • La Pintoresca

**Jack & the Beanstalk: A Puppet Musical**
Enjoy a unique and creative puppet musical from Noteworthy Puppets.
- **Wednesday, June 17** • 10:30 a.m. • Allendale
- **Wednesday, July 15** • 10:30 a.m. • Santa Catalina
- **Thursday, June 16** • 10:30 a.m. • Linda Vista

**Percussive Storytelling with Cory Hills**
Prepare to be dazzled as Cory Hills takes storytelling to a new level -- with percussive instruments.
- **Monday, June 22** • 10:30 a.m. • Hill Avenue
- **Thursday, July 16** • 10:30 a.m. • Linda Vista

**Summer Kick-off Concert with José-Luis Orozco**
José-Luis Orozco performs children’s favorites in Spanish and English.
- **Tuesday, June 23** • 10:30 a.m. • Villa Parke

**Creative Craft Days**
Half the appeal of playing guitar is looking awesome while doing it, and nothing is more awesome than playing a cardstock guitar you decorated yourself.
- **Thursday, June 25** • 4 p.m. • Hastings

**Dance to the Rhythm**
Discover and learn exciting dances from Brazil, West Africa and more!
- **Tuesday, July 7** • 10:30 a.m. • La Pintoresca

**John Abrams’ Animal Magic**
You’ll laugh and scream with John Abram’s zany blend of magic, comedy, music and live exotic pets in an entertainment experience guaranteed to amaze the entire family!
- **Wednesday, July 8** • 1 p.m. • La Pintoresca
- **Wednesday, July 8** • 3 p.m. • Santa Catalina
- **Thursday, July 9** • 1 p.m. • Central Library/Donald Wright Auditorium
- **Thursday, July 9** • 3 p.m. • Hastings

**Music with Sara**
Bilingual musician Sara Quintanar will have you singing and dancing to traditional children’s songs.
- **Monday, July 13** • 3 p.m. • Hill Avenue

**THURSDAY TUNES**
Music boat with Angie Donkin
Sing songs, listen to stories and play instruments while journeying on the Music Boat with Angie.
- **July 16** • 10 a.m. • Central Library/Donald Wright Auditorium

**One World Rhythm**
Have fun playing percussion instruments and making music.
- **July 30** • 10 a.m. • Central Library/Donald Wright Auditorium

**Craig Newton’s Really Big Music Show**
Craig Newton plays an incredible variety of instruments, ranging from guitars to wind instruments. Come and celebrate songs about following your dreams by clapping, tapping and singing in a big way.
- **Monday, August 3** • 10:30 a.m. • San Rafael
- **Monday, August 3** • 1 p.m. • Lamanda Park
- **Monday, August 3** • 3 p.m. • Hill Avenue
- **Tuesday, August 4** • 10:30 a.m. • Linda Vista
- **Tuesday, August 4** • 1 p.m. • La Pintoresca
- **Wednesday, August 5** • 10:30 a.m. • Villa Parke
- **Wednesday, August 5** • 1 p.m. • Allendale
- **Thursday, August 6** • 10:30 a.m. • Santa Catalina
- **Thursday, August 6** • 1 p.m. • Hastings
- **Saturday, August 8** • 10 a.m. • Central Library/Donald Wright Auditorium

**Rock to the Rhythm Family Dance Party**
Let’s dance! Join us as we shake, shimmy and move to children’s music.
- **Friday, August 7** • 4 p.m. • Central Library/Children’s Story Room
BOOKS AND MORE

Barks and Books
Children read a book to a gentle, well-trained dog. Presented by Pasadena Humane Society volunteers.
- Saturdays, June 6 & July 25 • 11 a.m. • Linda Vista
- Tuesdays, June 9 & July 14 • 3:30 p.m. • Hastings

Creative Writing for Beginning Readers
Bring your imagination and we'll help you create some new characters and stories using fun and easy writing exercises based on popular children's books. To sign up, call (626) 744-4066 option 4.
- Wednesdays, July 1 & August 5 • 5 p.m.

Central Library/Children's Story Room

Pete the Cat Party
Calling all cool cats. The one-and-only Pete the Cat will be at the library. Join us for stories, songs and a craft. Be ready to have a groovy time, 'cuz it's all good! Parents, bring your cameras.
- Thursday, July 23 • 3:30 p.m. • La Pintoresca

CREATIVE ARTS

Summer Crafts
Stay out of the heat and join us as we create fun summer crafts.
- Wednesdays, June 10, July 8 & August 12
  - 12 noon • San Rafael
- Wednesdays, July 17, July 22 & August 19
  - 3 p.m. • Villa Parke

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Tablets and Tech for Kids
Come and play with Osmo game systems and Wonder Workshop robots, toys that extend the two-dimensional iPad to the world of three-dimensional play! To sign up, call (626) 744-4066 option 4.
- Thursday, June 4 • 3:30 p.m. • Central Library/Studio on 4th

WEDNESDAYS
Léeme un cuento
Spanish Storytime/Hora de cuentos en español
- 4 p.m. • La Pintoresca

THURSDAYS
Family Storytime
- 3:30 p.m. • Lamanda Park (starting July 9)

MONTHLY STORYTIMES

Baby Storytime
- Saturdays, June 6 & August 29 • 11 a.m. • San Rafael

Mandarin Storytime
Enjoy stories and songs for children in Mandarin.
- Sundays, June 7, July 5 & August 2 • 3 p.m. Hastings (Bilingual)
- Wednesdays, June 24, July 22 & August 26
  - 3:30 p.m. • Hastings (Mandarin only)

Around the World Storytime
Wednesdays, June 10, July 8 & August 12
- 11 a.m. • San Rafael

eStorytime
Join us for a storytime with a twist! We'll have fun sharing stories, songs and apps on the big screen.
- Fridays, June 12, July 24 & August 21 • 10 a.m.
- Central Library/Children's Story Room

Armenian Storytime
Saturdays, June 20, July 18 & August 29 • 11 a.m.
- Santa Catalina

Chocolate Storytime: Tales & Candy Treats for Children
Join us for an afternoon of storytelling and village building, featuring stories authored by and/or about African-Americans followed by a chocolate treat! Led by Dr. Ayessa Randall. For ages 3+
- Fridays, June 26, July 31 & August 28 • 4 p.m.
- La Pintoresca

PRESCHOOLERS

Hatha Yoga for Children & their Caregivers
Learn techniques to help children relax and focus through stretching and movement, presented by Yoga instructor Merry Everest.
- Wednesday, June 17 • 10:45 a.m. • Santa Catalina

INFANTS AND TODDLERS

Summer Baby Gym
Spend an hour playing with your child at the library! Meet other parents and have fun with baby. We’ll have different activities set up to stimulate motor, visual and language skills.
- Mondays, June 1, July 6 & August 3 • 10 a.m.
- Central Library/Studio on 4th

STORYTIMES

Central Library Infant and Toddler Storytime Registration
Each storytime is limited to 25 children and 25 adults. Children can be registered for one program time only. Registration is taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

SUMMER SESSION • June 16 – August 18

REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER SESSION – TUESDAY, JUNE 9
- 9 a.m. • Priority Registration in person for Pasadena residents with a Pasadena Public Library Card or valid Driver’s License
- 11 a.m. • Open Registration in person
- NOON • Open Registration by telephone at 744-4066, option 4

Central Library Infant and Toddler Storytime
Spring Session • March 31 – June 2
Summer Session • June 16 – August 18

For Infants and Toddlers
TUESDAYS
- 9:20 a.m. • Central Library/Children’s Story Room
  (Infants up to 17 months)
  Pre-registration required.
- 10 & 11 a.m. • Central Library/Children’s Story Room
  (Toddlers 18-36 months)
  Pre-registration required.

For Infants and Toddlers
THURSDAYS
- 10:30 a.m. • Lamanda Park (starting July 9)

For Preschoolers
TUESDAYS
- 10:30 a.m. • Hill Avenue
- 10:30 a.m. • Lamanda Park (starting July 9)
- 10:30 a.m. • Villa Parke

WEDNESDAYS
- 10:30 a.m. • Allendale
- 10:30 a.m. • Santa Catalina (June 24 – August 26)
- 10:45 a.m. • Hastings
- 11 a.m. • San Rafael

THURSDAYS
- 10:30 a.m. • La Pintoresca
- 10:30 a.m. • Linda Vista (June 25 – August 27)

SATURDAYS
- 10 a.m.
- Central Library/Children’s Story Room

For Families
Mondays
Marvelous Mondays
- 7 p.m. • Hastings
Jaol Esgo
In the beautiful land of Ghana in the 1840’s, there once lived a man by the name of Jaol Esgo. He was a captain in the Ooda Clan army; he was very successful in his wars. Then one day, the slave traders attacked his village, catching them off guard. One warm night, crickets screeching, everything seemed perfect… until… Charge!!! A war cry, they descended into the camp, burning everything and taking everything, including the people of the clan. After that, the night was filled with tears and screams and flames of fire.

The Boat
Jaol awoke to find his people in chains, sitting on wet and soggy floors. The smell of death surrounded them. His thoughts were interrupted by footsteps—clunk, clunk, and clunk!

“Hello Negros, I’m your new captain and my name is Jet.”

“Where are you taking my people?” Jaol exclaimed.

“That’s none of your business fool! You’re my property now,” Captain Jet responded. “We have a long way to go still, so get comfortable if you can,” he sneered.

Two months later, they hit land. Jaol was relieved, excited to see land, but didn’t want to know his fate. He had heard so get comfortable if you can,” he sneered.

“That’s none of your business fool! You’re my property now,” Captain Jet responded. “We have a long way to go still, so get comfortable if you can,” he sneered.

“Where are you taking my people?” Jaol exclaimed.

The Trading Block
“Good Morning Negros! Everyone get up and get into one line. Make it quick,” he continued, “I ain’t got all day.” The sun shone brightly as Jaol and his people walked out of the boat onto a wooden stage where he witnessed his people getting sold like animals. “Next!” said the auctioneer. That was the first time this great warrior had ever felt this mount of fear and humiliation. As Jaol seemed to go into a daze of deep thought, the word “Sold!” echoed throughout the crowd. With that, he was escorted off the stage and into the hands of his new owner.

Master Johnson
He rode in chains to his new life. The cart stopped and Jaol opened his eyes to find a plump white man with short blonde hair and blue eyes. “John,” he said with a long pause in between, “what did you get me? Is that another slave?”

“Yes, but he’s strong and hardworking, and I think he’ll fit right in with the others.”

“All right, then just take him to the shed and get him cleaned up and fed.”

“Yes, sir.”

So John pulled Jaol along on foot as he rode high on his horse to the shed.

New Folks
Jaol arrived at his new home. Waiting for him were four other slaves: two men and two women. Their names were Mary, Sarah, John and James. Mary was short in stature with green eyes and light brown skin. Sarah was just the opposite, tall and lean with brown eyes and smooth dark brown skin. Her hair was long and silky black neatly placed in two braids. John was average height with huge muscles in his arms and shoulders. He seemed like a quiet man, didn’t say much and barely looked up. The last member of the group, James, was also medium tall with green eyes and caramel-colored skin.

The days went by, but Jaol was having a hard time adjusting to his new surroundings. He was constantly being beaten because he wasn’t working fast enough or hard enough. He was caught several times a day dreaming out in the fields. He longed for his beautiful home in Ghana, but he knew he would never see the place he called home again. During most days, he and James worked together. They had gotten to know each other and would encourage and comfort one another on days when things were really bad. One day, James shared the news he had heard about an ex-slave who another on days when things were really bad. One day, James shared the news he had heard about an ex-slave who one day, the slave traders attacked his village, catching them off guard. One warm night, crickets screeching, everything seemed perfect… until… Charge!!! A war cry, they descended into the camp, burning everything and taking everything, including the people of the clan. After that, the night was filled with tears and screaming.
They just laugh and the biggest, toughest one says, “Why would I listen to a little girl like you?” That’s when I get angry, my face burns and my
of being caught. The reason why I left Chiapas and why everybody in Mexico is scared of me is for a good reason because I am scared of me.
The boys. They fall to the ground and sputter out water while looking at me as if I’m a monster. Since this has happened before maybe I am a monster. I run away in fear
of person to mess around with. I suddenly feel a surge of pressure in my head and everything turns black. All I can see is the water swelling up behind them smashing into
I could see Beck trying to

I could step on him if I tried. Then I see these big tough boys dressed in all black come up behind him and take his bag.
people all turn away and continue doing what they’re doing. Out of the corner of my eye I see my old friend Beck. Beck has always been there for me but he is extremely small.

They are probably surprised to see a bunch of Latinos and Latinas stepping out of a small packed boat in unusual clothing. My heart thumps and my stomach sloshes. The
boxes with apples on them pressed up against their ear. I step off of the gleaming black boat and everyone stops in his or her tracks.

Why can’t I be normal? Maybe even be like the others. Mama says that being special and extraordinary is better. In my case extraordinary means
having my family threatened and chased out of our small social town of Chiapas and rushing to America before we die. What happens to me the

mama says. “Vamos Jessie, América será bueno para todos nosotros” says Mama. Her telling me America will be good for all of us

American I think. All I can see are tons of people. I see girls in pretty dresses and guys riding pieces of wood that they call skateboards. Men and women with little silver
boxes with apples on them pressed up against their ear. I step off of the gleaming black boat and everyone stops in his or her tracks.

To read more visit http://pasadena-library.net/kids/2015/ocos.